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Approved For Release 2003/12/19 : CIA-RDP78T04759A010000010112-2

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25X1

13 January 1972

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MEMORANDUM FOR:

SUBJECT

: Probable Communications Cable From
Olenegorsk ABM Radar Facility (HEN HOUSE)
to Olenegorsk Troposcatter Facility

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REFERENCE

: NSA/PO4/SPO/R-115-72
(NPIC Project 251346)

1. This memorandum is in response to the requirement referenced above requesting a detailed interpretation of photography of the possible cable connection between the HEN HOUSE radar at Olenegorsk [redacted] and the nearby troposcatter facility [redacted] approximately 3.5 nm to the south-southeast.

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2. [redacted] a narrow trench was first observed being dug between the HEN HOUSE support area and the troposcatter facility [redacted] the trench had been completed from the troposcatter facility to the water storage facility, adjacent to the rear of the HEN HOUSE operations area. The intervals between existing photographic coverages of these facilities make it impossible to determine whether or not the trench was ever extended beyond the water treatment facility into the HEN HOUSE operations area. Because of this, the possibility that the trench is intended for a water line cannot be eliminated at this time.

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3. A line of utility poles extending between the HEN HOUSE support area and the troposcatter facility may carry an overhead landline or a low voltage powerline or both. This cannot be determined on the best quality, high-resolution photography available.

Declass Review by NIMA / DoD

GROUP 1

Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

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4. For the following reasons it is believed that the trench probably was dug for a data link transmission cable and not to contain a waterline.

a. Reliable and secure data links are necessary in order to pass the HEN HOUSE tracking data to the troposcatter facility. This data link would be best handled by means of an underground communications cable. The next most satisfactory method of handling such a link would be microwave transmission but no microwave link has been identified between the HEN HOUSE area and the troposcatter facility.

b. Forty-two troposcatter facilities have been identified in the USSR. None has a water line supporting the facility. Apparently water is not needed to cool the transmitter equipment, and water for personnel at the troposcatter facilities is available at nearby supporting facilities.

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5. This project is considered complete. Questions concerning future developments can be addressed to

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Chief, Imagery Exploitation Group
NPIC

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Attachment A - Photograph

Distribution:

- Cy 1&2 - TCO/NSA/PO4/SPO (w/att)
- 3&4 - NPIC/IEG/MSD
- 5 - NPIC/PSG/R&RD
- 6 - NPIC/IEG/OD/RCB
- 7 - NPIC/PSG/RRD/ESS
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- 9 - CIA/DDI/IRS/Recce/R
- 10 - CIA/IAS
- 11 - DS-3B8
- 12 - DS-3B9
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